DRAUGHT OF BILL

Proposed by Mr. WILSON to be submitted to the Select Committee to which is referred the Bill to repeal so much of the Imperial Act 31 Geo. 3, cap. 31, as relates to Rectories and the presentation of Incumbents to the same, in place of the said Bill.

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W HEREAS the recognition of legal equality among all Religious Denominations is an admitted principle of Colonial Legislation : And whereas in the state and condition of this Province, to which such a principle is peculiarly applicable, it is desirable that the same should receive the sanction of direct Legislative authority, recognizing and declaring the same as a fundamental principle of our civil polity:-Be it therefore declared and enacted, &c.

That the free exercise, and enjoyment of religious profession and worship, without discrimination or preference, so as the same be not made an excuse for acts of licentiousness, or a justification of practices inconsistent with the peace and safety of the Province is by the Constitution and Laws of this Province allowed to all Her Majesty's subjects within the same.

II. And whereas the provisions of the Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain passed in the 31st year of the Reign of His late Majesty King Geo.3, initiuled, "An Act, &c." whereby the erection of Parsonages or Rectories in this Province according to the establishment of the Church of England, the endowment of such Parsonages or Rectories out of the Clergy Reserves, and the presentation of Incumbents or Ministers to such Parsonages or Rectories, is vested in the Governor of this Province, have been found to give occasion to doubts and apprehensions which it is desirable should be removed by the repeal of the same under the power for that purpose vested in the Provincial Parliament by the provisions of the said Imperial Act; be it therefore further enacted, That the 38th, 39th, and 40th Sections of the said Act shall be and